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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/544,795	04/07/2000	Mark Baugher	4698.P003	1551

7590 12/19/2003
FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW
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1300 I STREET N. W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005-3315

EXAMINER

SALAD, ABDULLAHI ELMI

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2157

DATE MAILED: 12/19/2003

11

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/544,975

Applicant(s)

KUTLUCINAR, ISKEN

Examiner

Salad E Abdullahi

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 15 September 2003.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-11 and 13-19 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-11 and 13-19 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application) since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121 since a specific reference was included in the first sentence of the specification or in an Application Data Sheet. 37 CFR 1.78.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). _____
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) 10. 6) ☐ Other: _____

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Response to Amendment

1. The Amendment filed on 09/15/2003 has been entered and made of record.
2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-11 and 13-19 have been considered but are not persuasive for the following reasons.

Applicant alleges the reference “ does not disclose or suggest that users assigned to a particular group are eligible to access objects assigned to the particular group as well objects assigned to all ancestor groups of the particular group”. Examiner, respectfully because Brown teaches a hierarchical database where users are signed into groups such that users of particular group can inherit the access rights of ancestor group. For example, Brown teaches a situation where if a user is an 18 years old has an access to a 18 years older folder, that user has also the privilege to access the public directory(i.e. the ancestor or predecessor folder) (see col. 19, lines 52-60).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

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4. Claims 1, 3-12, 13-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bienvenu et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,526,438, in view of Brown et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,941,947.

5. As per claims 1, 11 and 19, Bienvenu et al., disclose a system comprising:

- a server system (management system) including a relational database, the database includes association between a plurality of event (contents) available at plurality of sending sources and plurality of receiving clients eligible to receive selected ones of plurality of contents (see fig. 1, col. 3, lines 9-67 and col. 6, line 58 to col. 7, line 61).

Bienvenu et al., is silent regarding the details of the hierarchical database structure such: clients assigned to a particular group are eligible for contents assigned the particular group as well as to all contents assigned to all ancestor groups of the particular group.

Nonetheless, such details of the hierarchical database structure is well known in the art as evidenced by Brown et al. Brown et al., disclose an access rights management system, utilizing hierarchical database structure including the step wherein clients assigned to a particular group are eligible for contents assigned to all ancestor groups of the particular group (see col. 2, line 20 to col. 4, line 67 and col. 19, lines 52-60). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Bienvenu by employing the access control mechanism as taught by Brown, such that access rights of users of the system can be effectively managed in order to prevent users from accessing unauthorized contents.

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In considering claims 3 and 13, Brown disclose assigning a client identifier to group identifier (see fig. 5b).

In considering claims 4 and 14, Brown et al., disclose, generating ticket (token) based on a particular identifier (see fig. 6).

In considering claims 5-6 and 15-16, Brown et al., discloses a system facilitating communication between a particular client and one additional client (i.e., administrator) (see col. 21, lines 44-59).

In considering claims 7-8 and 17-18, Brown et al., disclose a system, a varies types of administrative procedures including deleting, addition, modification (i.e., user groups, identifiers, entities) (see col. 31, lines 30-44 and col. 4, line 66 to col. 5, line 18).

In considering claims 9 and 10, Brown discloses a system including a variety of server (i.e. token server) (see fig. 1).

6. **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL.** Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR

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1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the mailing date of this final action.

CONCLUSION

7. The prior art made of record and relied upon is considered pertinent to the applicants disclosure.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to **Abdullahi E. Salad** whose telephone number is **(703) 308-8441**. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday to Friday from **8:30 AM to 5:00 PM**.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, **Etienne, Ario** can be reached at **(703)308-7562**. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is **(703)305-3900**.

Any response to this action should mailed to:

Box AF

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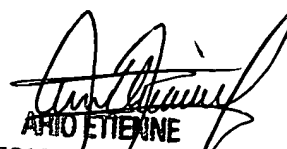
Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

(703)872-9306.

As

12/12/2003


ARIO ETIENNE
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
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